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mountain-making responsible for the crystallization of the limestone, because wherever the "white reef limestone" was found forced in between other rocks the crystalline structure increased in proportion as the stratum grew thinner. He explains this by the action of the percolating waters, which, as the crushing of the strata proceeds, get more and more access to the fragments, dissolve the carbonate of lime, and allow it to re-crystallize. The more completely, therefore, the process of grinding is done, the more complete will be the transformation of the ground substance into crystalline rock.

The rest of the book is given over to detailed descriptions of the single ridges and peaks which, while of high value for the specialist, cannot be duly appreciated in a general review. Of the same special value is the wonderful and exhaustive bibliography of the subject which precedes the presentation of the author's own work, and the illustrations are splendid instances of the scientific value of photography.

M. K. G.

**Das Neue Südafrika.** Von Paul Samassa. 416 pp. C. U. Schwetschke & Son, Berlin, 1905. (Price, M. 5.50.)

This is neither a book of travel nor a volume of political essays, but an able and evidently an honest effort to portray South Africa in its present condition as it begins life anew with peace throughout the land. The region under the British flag, however, is now so vast and its interests and conditions are so varied that the whole subject could scarcely be treated in the compass of this book. The Governmental policy in Rhodesia, for example, and the serious misunderstanding between the white colonists and the Chartered Company are matters of grave import in the whole of north South Africa, but the author does not mention them. On the whole, however, he has certainly made a thoughtful contribution to the study of the country and of its leading problems. We have British views in plenty, but it is to the advantage of this book that it is written from the standpoint of the outside observer.

The author gives many facts relating to political and industrial life, and conveys the idea that, apart from its great mineral wealth, South Africa is really a poor land, and that agriculture can be developed only within narrow lines. He believes that a future uprising of the Boers is very improbable, and asserts that a process of the rapid "Africanization" of many of the English is now going on. He treats the native and labour questions, and says that away from the great trade routes "Cape Dutch," the language of the Boers, is more widely disseminated than English, and that the millions of blacks more easily learn to speak Dutch than English.

**The Land of the Rising Sun.** By Gregoire de Wollant. 8vo, pp. 401. Neale Publishing Company, New York and Washington, 1905.

A book upon Japan written by a Russian has a unique interest at this time. Mr. de Wollant's residence in Japan, as Secretary of the Russian Legation, was long enough to give him an intimate knowledge of the country and the people. This is shown in the first part of the book, which is devoted to the history, religion, customs, and superstitions of the people. The chapters upon literature, dramatic art, and the theatre are filled with information not usually found in the many books written upon this wonderful country. But the real interest of the book centres in the last two chapters, in which the author deals with Japan's foreign policy, her war with China and its results, and the war with Russia, which was in progress at the time the book was written.